FILED:

SERIAL NO.: 09/849,499 May 04, 2001

Page 2

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1-63. (Cancelled)

- 64. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a long-term culture of immature human or mouse dendritic cells, comprising:
 - (i) culturing an embryonic stem cell in the presence of composition comprising a cytokine, which bring about differentiation of said embryonic stem cell into an immature dendritic cell; and
 - (ii) recovering said immature dendritic cell from said culture, wherein said immature dendritic cell is capable of maturing into an immunostimulatory phenotype cell.

65-67. (Cancelled)

- 68. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 64, wherein said composition further comprises IL-3.
- 69. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 68, wherein said composition further comprises GM-CSF.
- 70. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 64, wherein said embryonic stem cell in (i) is in the form of embryoid bodies, generated by culturing purified

SERIAL NO.: FILED:

09/849,499 May 04, 2001

Page 3

embryonic stem cells in suspension for 14 days in the absence of recombinant leukemia inhibitory factor.

- (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 64, wherein said embryonic 71. stem cell (ES) is genetically modified.
- (Previously Presented) The process of claim 71, wherein the cell expresses one or 72. more heterologous gene(s).
- 73. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 72, wherein the heterologous gene (s) encode a protein which has an immunomodulatory effect.
- 74. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 73, wherein the protein is a cell surface receptor.
- 75. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 74, wherein the protein is Fas-ligand.
- 76. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 72, wherein the gene(s) express a dominant negative form of an endogenous protein.
- 77. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 73, wherein the protein is an antigen target for the immune system, such as an autoantigen, a tumour antigen, or a foreign antigen.

SERIAL NO.: FILED:

09/849,499 May 04, 2001

Page 4

- 78. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 64, wherein the cell co-expresses two or more heterologous genes.
- 79. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 78, wherein one of the heterologous genes prolongs the life-span of the cell.
- 80. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 79, wherein the gene is an anti-apoptotic gene.
- 81. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 78 or 79, wherein the gene encodes FLIP or bcl-2.
- 82. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 64, wherein one or more endogenous gene(s) have been inactivated.
- (Previously Presented) The process of claim 82, wherein the inactivated endogenous gene(s) are B7-1, IL-12, p35 subunit of IL-12 or p40 subunit of IL-12.
- 84. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 71, wherein said embryonic stem cell is transfected with a gene, which is expressed in the dendritic cell.

SERIAL NO.: FILED:

09/849,499 May 04, 2001

Page 5

- 85. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 84, wherein the gene is under the control of a promoter which initiates gene expression on maturation of the dendritic cell.
- 86. (Previously Presented) The process of any one of claims 84, 85 or 111, wherein the gene is a reporter gene which expresses a detectable product in the dendritic cell.
- (Previously Presented) The process of claim 86, wherein the gene encodes a fluorescent product.
- (Previously Presented) The process of claim 87, wherein the gene is the GFP gene. 88.
- (Previously Presented) The process of claim 71, wherein the ES cell is genetically 89. modified so as to inactivate a copy of a gene.
- 90. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 64, wherein the recovered immature dendritic cell is substantially pure.
- 91. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 64, wherein the cell is a lymphoid dendritic cell.
- (Previously Presented) The process of claim 64, wherein the cell is a myeloid dendritic cell.

SERIAL NO.: FILED:

09/849,499 May 04, 2001

Page 6

- 93. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 64, wherein the cell is a human dendritic cell.
- 94. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 64, wherein the ES cell <u>is</u> derived from a mouse strain such as CBA/Ca or C57BI/6.
- 95. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 64, wherein the ES cell is from [[an]] the ESF116 cell line.

96-104. (Cancelled)

- 105. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 79, wherein the gene encodes FLIP or bel2.
- 106. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 85, wherein the gene is a reporter gene which expresses detectable product in the dendritic cells.
- 107. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 106, wherein the gene encodes a fluorescent product.
- 108. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 107, wherein the gene is the GFP gene.
- 109. (Cancelled)

SERIAL NO.: 09/849,499 FILED:

Page 7

May 04, 2001

110. (Currently Amended) The method process according [[of]] to claim 64, wherein said composition further comprises GM-CSF.

111. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 84, wherein the gene is under the control of a promoter which upregulates gene expression on maturation of the dendritic cell.